

(As of February 20, 2001)

Section 15-101. Initiation of Amendments or Revisions --

Except as hereinafter provided, amendments or revisions of this charter may be initiated only in the following manner:

(a) By resolution of the council adopted after three readings on separate days and passed by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of its entire membership at each reading.

(b) By petition presented to the council, signed by duly registered voters equal in number to at least ten percent of the total voters registered in the last regular mayoral election, setting forth the proposed amendments or revisions. Such petition shall designate and authorize not less than three nor more than five of the signers thereto to approve any alteration or change in the form or language or any restatement of the text of the proposed amendments or revisions which may be made by the corporation counsel.

Such petition shall include each signing voter's signature, residence, social security number, and date of signing. Signatures may be on separate sheets, but each sheet shall have appended to it the affidavit of some person, not necessarily a signer of the petition, that to the best of the affiant's knowledge and belief the persons whose signatures appear on the sheet are duly registered voters of the city, that they signed with full knowledge of the contents of the petition and that their residences are correctly given.

Upon filing of such petition with the council, the city clerk shall examine it to see whether it contains a sufficient number of apparently genuine signatures of registered voters. The clerk may question the genuineness of any signature or signatures appearing on the petition, and if the clerk finds that any such signature or signatures are not genuine, the clerk shall disregard them in determining whether the petition contains a sufficient number of signatures. The clerk shall eliminate any sheet of the petition which is not accompanied by the required affidavit. The invalidity of any sheet shall not affect the validity of the petition if a sufficient number of signatures remains after eliminating such invalid sheet. The clerk shall complete the examination of the petition within twenty working days.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the corporation counsel, as revisor, may, subject to the provisions of Section 4-202 of this charter, prepare supplements or editions of the charter containing language which reflects an exercise of the reorganization power as prescribed therein. *(Reso. 83-357; 1992 General Election Charter Amendment Question Nos. 15 and 32A(3); 1998 General Election Charter Amendment Question No. 5(II))*